

Use can instead be made of a cloth layer 13 obtained by twill weaving these strips.

The sticker 2 shown in FIG. 5 can be used not only on external or internal trim in vehicles, but may be applied to all sorts of objects, including electronic devices such as notebook computers and household articles such as decorative items.

As explained above, the present invention enables molded articles in which a reinforcing fiber cloth has been embedded to be neatly and simply produced, thus making it possible to improve the quality of the molded articles without increasing the cost of production and the production time.

This invention also makes it possible to obtain dress-up sheets which have a genuine reinforcing fiber cloth and freely deform without heating, thus enabling dress up with a genuine woven pattern to be easily and inexpensively achieved.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

The reinforcing fiber sheets according to the invention can be embedded within a matrix resin and thereby employed as a reinforcing material in molded articles. Moreover, they can be employed as stickers applied to internal trim or external trim in vehicles, or as a seat covering in automobiles.

CLAIMS

1. A reinforcing fiber sheet characterized by having a cloth core (4) comprising a cloth layer (13) constructed of

vertically and horizontally woven vertical strips (11) and horizontal strips (12) which are assemblages of numerous reinforcing fibers, and a binding and reinforcing layer (14) impregnated into the cloth layer (13) so as to allow the cloth layer (13) to deform at ordinary room temperature with the vertical strips (11) and horizontal strips (12) remaining in a mutually bonded state.

2. The reinforcing fiber sheet according to claim 1 wherein a synthetic resin high-stretch sheet material (6) which is transparent and has a good stretch is applied to the binding and reinforcing layer (14) of the cloth core (4).

3. The reinforcing fiber sheet according to claim 2, wherein the high-stretch sheet material (6) comprises a synthetic resin base sheet (15) and a binding and reinforcing layer (16) which is formed on a back side of the base sheet (15) by impregnating the base sheet (15) with an ink (30) that exhibits good flexibility after drying.

4. A dress-up sheet characterized in that an adhesive layer (7) is provided on a back side of the reinforcing fiber sheet (1) according to claim 2 or 3, and a release sheet (8) is applied to a back side of the adhesive layer (7).

5. A dress-up sheet characterized in that a cushioning layer (9) is provided on a back side of the reinforcing fiber sheet (1) according to claim 2 or 3.

6. A method of manufacturing a reinforcing fiber sheet comprising the following steps (a) to (c):

(a) a first step in which a screen (18) having a mesh size which is coarser than a standard mesh size is set on top of a cloth layer (13) constructed of vertically and horizontally woven vertical strips (11) and horizontal strips (12) which are assemblages of numerous reinforcing fibers;

(b) a second step in which an ink (20) that exhibits good flexibility after drying is supplied onto the screen (18) and screen printing is carried out, thereby impregnating the cloth layer (13) with the ink (20); and

(c) a third step in which the cloth layer (13) impregnated with the ink (20) is dried, forming a cloth core (4).

7. The method of manufacturing a reinforcing fiber sheet according to claim 6, further comprising the following step (d):

(d) a fourth step in which a synthetic resin high-stretch sheet material (6) which is transparent and has a good stretch is applied to the binding and reinforcing layer (14) of the cloth core (4).

8. The method of manufacturing a reinforcing fiber sheet according to claim 7, wherein the high-stretch sheet material (6) in the fourth step is obtained by screen-printing using a screen (28) that is coarser than the standard mesh size and thereby coating an ink (30) that exhibits good flexibility after drying onto a back side of a synthetic resin base sheet (15) for the ink, then drying the ink.

9. The method of manufacturing a reinforcing fiber sheet according to any one of claims 6 to 8, wherein the screen (18) used for screen printing in the second step is set to a mesh size having a coarseness which is not more than $1/3$ and not less than $1/4$ of the standard mesh size.

10. The method of manufacturing a reinforcing fiber sheet according to any one of claims 6 to 9, wherein coating of the ink (20) onto the cloth layer (13) and drying are carried out two or more times.